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ABSTRACT

Results of the administration in 1971 of the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test, Survey D, Form 1M, to 5,480 fifth grade pupils of Vancouver schools are reported and compared with results obtained with the same test administered in 1968. The test results, which are presented in four tables, indicate that the 1971 students performed slightly better in "Speed and Accuracy" than did the 1968 students, but were still below the publisher's norm; and the 1971 students performed below that of the 1968 students in "Vocabulary," "Comprehension," and "Total Score." (DB)

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RESEARCH REPORT

Survey of Achievement in Reading
in Grade 5 of Vancouver Schools,
November 29 - December 3, 1971

January, 1972

E. N. Ellis

Research Report 72-03

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SURVEY OF ACHIEVEMENT IN READING IN GRADE 5 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 1971.

Introduction

The Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test, Survey D, Form 1M was administered to all pupils (N=5,480) in Grade 5 of Vancouver schools during the week of November 29 - December 3rd. (The grade placement of these pupils at that time was 5.3).

The answer sheets were marked by the IBM 1230 Optical Test Scoring Machine at Simon Fraser University and then returned to the schools. The sub-test scores serve to help teachers identify pupils in need of specific help.

- to read faster and more accurately,
- to develop a larger vocabulary, or
- to read with greater understanding.

Summary of Results

The overall performance is summarized in Table I.

TABLE I: SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE OF 5,480 PUPILS IN GRADE 5 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS ON THE GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, FORM 1M, NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 1971. (GRADE PLACEMENT 5.3)

	Speed and Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Total Score
Possible Score	36	50	52	138
Range of Scores	1 - 36	1 - 49	2 - 52	10 - 133
Mean Score	15.6	29.6	32.9	78.1
Mean as a Percentage	43.5%	59.1%	63.2%	56.6%
Median Score	15.1	30.0	33.9	79.1
Median as a Percentage	42.0%	60.0%	65.2%	57.3%
Median on Publisher's Norms				
- Percentile Rank*	50	58	50	
- Standard Score*	50	52	50	
- Grade Equivalent	5.1	5.6	5.3	
Number of Perfect Scores	11	0	10	0
Number of Zero Scores	0	0	0	0

(*in terms of publisher's norms interpolated for 5.3 grade level)

The performance of the "typical" pupil in Vancouver schools as indicated by the median grade-equivalent scores is:

- two months below the publisher's norm in Speed and Accuracy,
- three months above the publisher's norm in Vocabulary, and
- equivalent to the publisher's norm in Comprehension.

There were eleven 'perfect' scores in 'Speed and Accuracy', and ten in 'Comprehension'. There were no zero scores on any of the subtests.

Comparison with the 1968 Survey

A parallel form (2M) of this test was administered to all of the pupils (N=5,289) in Grade 5 of Vancouver schools, November 1 - 8, 1968. A comparison of results of the two surveys appears in Table II.

TABLE II: A COMPARISON OF RESULTS ON TWO SURVEYS WITH THE GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, IN GRADE 5 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 1 - 8, 1968. (GRADE PLACEMENT 5.2) AND NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 1971 (GRADE PLACEMENT 5.3)

	Speed and Accuracy		Vocabulary		Comprehension		Total Score	
	1968	1971	1968	1971	1968	1971	1968	1971
Median Score	14.2	15.1	31.2	30.0	36.2	33.9	82.0	79.1
Median as %	39.4%	42.0%	62.4%	60.0%	69.6%	65.2%	59.4%	57.3%
Number of Perfect Scores	15	11	0	0	4	10	0	0
Number of Zero Scores	1	0	2	0	7	0	0	0
Median on Publisher's Norms								
- Percentile Rank	47	50	66	58	58	50		
- Standard Score	49	50	54	52	52	50		
- Grade Equivalent	4.9	5.1	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.3		
Grade Equivalent in relation to Grade Placement	-.3	-.2	+.6	+.3	+.4	±0		

This comparison indicates that the performance of pupils in the current survey is:

- slightly better in 'Speed and Accuracy' than that of three years ago (but still below the publisher's norm), and
- below that of 1968 in 'Vocabulary', 'Comprehension' and 'Total Score'.

Vancouver norms for this test appear in Tables III and IV.

TABLE III: RAW SCORES CORRESPONDING TO SELECTED PERCENTILE LEVELS ON THE GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, FORM 1M ADMINISTERED TO 5,480 PUPILS IN GRADE 5 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 1971.

Percentile Rank	Speed and Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Total Score
99	33	45	50	121
95	26	41	48	111
90	23	39	46	105
85	21	37	44	100
80	20	36	42	97
75	19	35	41	94
70	18	34	39	90
65	17	33	38	87
60	16	32	37	85
55	16	31	35	82
50(Median)	15.1	30.0	33.9	79.1
45	14	29	32	76
40	14	28	31	73
35	13	27	29	70
30	12	26	28	67
25	12	25	26	63
20	11	23	24	60
15	10	22	22	55
10	09	20	19	50
05	07	17	15	43
01	04	11	09	29

TABLE IV: STANINES, LETTER GRADES, AND CORRESPONDING RANGES OF SCORES ON THE GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, FORM 1M, GIVEN TO 5,480 PUPILS IN GRADE 5, VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 1971.

Stanine	Letter Grade	Speed and Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Total Score
9	A	28-36	42-50	49-52	113-138
8	B+	23-27	39-41	46-48	104-112
7	B	20-22	36-38	42-45	95-103
6	C+	17-19	32-35	37-41	85- 94
5	C	14-16	29-31	31-36	74- 84
4	C-	12-13	25-28	25-30	62- 73
3	D	10-11	21-24	20-24	52- 61
2	D-	7- 9	16-20	15-19	41- 51
1	E	0- 6	0-15	0-14	0- 40